

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Okay. Thank you, Senator Beutler. I...I guess I'm ambivalent on it too. I...I tend to agree with what you said, Senator Beutler, although I'm reluctant to close the door entirely on privatization if, in fact, it would work. And I guess if we went this route now we could always change it if there was an opportune time to do it private. And I know privatization isn't the magic answer many would have us believe in other...in some cases, and other times it works pretty good. So I guess I'll listen a little more to the debate too. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Further discussion? Senator Beutler, you're recognized to close.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Simply put again, this would take away the privatization option. It would leave all other options open, all other options dealing with public entities of one type or another for the purpose of operating the system. The...the Baker amendment you may want to adopt later. I would suggest that you...that you frame this issue in your mind now simply on the question of whether you want to allow the privatization option. If you choose the privatization option, you would be rejecting the amendment. You would also be rejecting Senator Baker's option that he would be put to you...that he will put to you later. If you adopt the amendment, you're excluding privatization, but you could still further refine and narrow the public entity option that will be presented to you by Senator Baker, even narrower than what my amendment does. I hope I haven't confused you. But I'm suggesting that if you're interested go to the side of the public sector. Then you can look at Senator Baker's amendment to decide if a particular part of the public sector is the part that you want to handle the unit that we're creating. I think those are your options. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Beutler. The question before us is the adoption of the Beutler amendment, (AM)1329, to LB 637. Those in favor vote aye; those opposed nay. Have you all voted? Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I would ask for a call of the house and I'll take call-in votes.